

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Monsignor William O'Connell was ordained as a Priest in the Roman Catholic Church on May 12, 1947, in the Catholic Diocese of Rapid City; and,

Whereas, Monsignor O'Connell has served as the Pastor of Parishes in Rapid City, Spearfish, Kadoka, Wall, Gregory, Burke, and the Standing Rock Reservation. He also served as Chancellor of the Catholic Diocese of Rapid City during his ministry; and,

Whereas, Monsignor O'Connell founded Catholic Social Services shortly after the devastating Rapid City Flood of 1972, and served as its first executive director; and,

Whereas, Monsignor O'Connell served as the first editor of the *West River Catholic*; and,

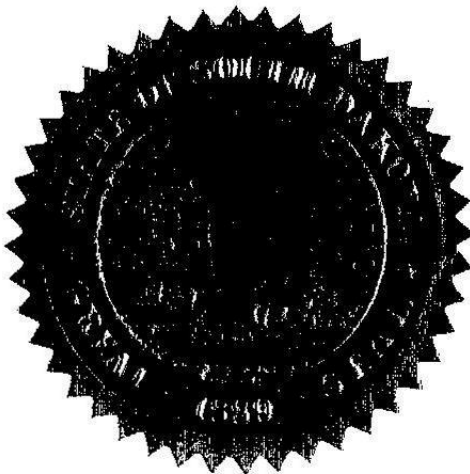
Whereas, Monsignor O'Connell has personally touched the lives of many individuals, families, and organizations in western South Dakota serving in a leadership capacity on numerous local organizations, including church disaster response post-flood Rapid City, Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation, West River Mental Health Center, and several Native American reservation organizations; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper as Governor to recognize the commitment, accomplishments, and years of service of this special South Dakotan:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 3, 2010, as

MONSIGNOR WILLIAM O'CONNELL DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-Second Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Ten.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State